

# Evaluation of the Patient Sample

## GUIDELINE 4: Chemistry Sample Acceptance and Rejection

Do Not Reject Samples Considered Difficult to Collect	
<p>Samples considered difficult to collect are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Samples collected in the operating room</li> <li>• CSF samples</li> <li>• Tissue samples</li> <li>• Sterile fluid samples (i.e. joint fluid)</li> <li>• Aspirate samples</li> <li>• Samples collected from infants/pediatrics (Age: birth to 5 years old)</li> <li>• Surgical pathology samples</li> </ul>	

Use Notification of Sample Discrepancy Form where appropriate		
Chemistry Criterion	Required Action	LIS Code
Frozen aliquot received partially or completely thawed <b>Exception:</b> see Ammonia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Do not re-freeze sample</li> <li>• Proceed with testing immediately, thaw completely as required</li> <li>• If testing is further delayed, reject</li> </ul>	<b>DELAY</b>
Urinalysis samples > 2 hours from collection time and stored at room temp  Urinalysis samples > 8 hours from collection time and stored at 2 – 8C	Reject	
Tests affected by diurnal variation and not collected as directed. e.g. testosterone or cortisol	Reject	
<b>Lactate Dehydrogenase</b> (LDH) sample transported cool	Proceed with testing and add comment: "LDH Transport Cool."	<b>CLDH</b>
<b>Bilirubin</b> sample > 2 hours from collection time and not protected from light	Proceed with testing. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Append a comment "Result may be affected due to improper sample handling."</li> </ul>	
<b>Fetal Fibronectin</b> sample <b>not</b> collected using FFN collection kit	Reject	



**Use Notification of Sample Discrepancy Form where appropriate**

<b>Chemistry Criterion</b>	<b>Required Action</b>	<b>LIS Code</b>
<b>Therapeutic Drug Test</b> (i.e.: gentamicin, vancomycin) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>not labelled as peak or trough</li> <li>results indicate possible discrepancy in collection time for peak or trough</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Call physician or ward to clarify or request missing information</li> <li>Append comment "Results indicate possible discrepancy in collection time for peak or trough."</li> </ul>	
<b>Ammonia sample</b>		
tourniquet used during collection	Process and add comment	<b>AMMT</b>
received partially or completely thawed	Reject	
not collected on ice	Reject	
not centrifuged within 15 mins of collection time	Reject	<b>DELAY</b>
<b>Ionized Calcium sample</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>not centrifuged at 4°C</li> <li>&gt; 4 hours from collection time and not maintained at 2 – 8°C after centrifugation</li> <li>under-filled</li> <li>not anaerobic (uncapped or aliquoted from SST)</li> </ul>	Reject	
<b>Body Fluid sample</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>collected in non-additive tubes and sent to referral site uncentrifuged</li> <li>aliquot not labelled as supernatant</li> </ul>	Centrifuge sample, aliquot supernatant, then proceed with testing	
delay in testing (> 30 min)	Add comment " Results may be affected due to delay in specimen testing"	
<b>pH</b> on pleural fluid <b>not</b> collected on ice	Reject	
<b>pH</b> on pleural fluid collected on ice but received > 30 mins from collection time	Reject	



**Use Notification of Sample Discrepancy Form where appropriate**

<b>Chemistry Criterion</b>	<b>Required Action</b>	<b>LIS Code</b>
<b>Blood Gas sample</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>collected in tube (venous) or syringe (arterial) with anticoagulant other than lithium heparin, or no anticoagulant</li> <li>syringe for pH, pCO<sub>2</sub> and pO<sub>2</sub> with air bubbles in sample</li> <li><b>not</b> processed within 30 minutes after collection</li> </ul>	Reject	
<b>Cord Gas sample</b>		
<b>not</b> collected on ice, plugged or labeled	Reject	
received between 4 – 12 hours from collection time	Proceed with testing and add comment: “Cord blood between 4 – 12 hours old	<b>CB412</b>
received > 12 hours from collection time	Proceed with testing and add comment: “Cord blood over 12 hours old.”	<b>CB12</b>
received > 60 hours from collection time	Reject and add comment: “Cord blood sample greater than 60 hours.”	<b>CB60</b>
<b>Request to add HGB A1C<sup>(1)</sup> to a CBC</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CBC stored at 15 – 25 °C and less than 3 days from collection time</li> <li>CBC stored at 2 – 8 °C and less than 7 days from collection time</li> </ul>	Add request	

(1) Reference: Roche Cobas A1C-3 product insert, 2014-01, version 5.0

- When rejecting samples, provide written notification of rejection to ordering physician using DOE: Cancel Orders CIS SM 220 or <fs> LIS order cancellation direction
- Select appropriate cancel reason and append additional cancellation information as required